



## Pistia stratiotes

### Water-lettuce

#### General

1. Floating aquatic perennial forb

#### Geography and Habitat

1. Native: Likely native to South America, though debated due to its pan-tropical distribution
2. Habitat:
  - Occurs in slow moving water: ponds, lakes, swamps, irrigation canals, ornamental ponds
  - Limited by sensitivity to cold temperatures; endures temperatures from 15°C—35°C
  - Appropriate substrate and hydrologic conditions, overwintering by seed may account for population reoccurrence in temperate regions



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<http://plants.usda.gov/java/profile?symbol=PIST2>

#### Invasion Pathways

1. Intentional introduction for aquaria and ornamental ponds
2. Hitchhiking on boats and trailers or other gear

#### Sources

1. <http://nas.er.usgs.gov/queries/FactSheet.aspx?SpeciesID=1099>
2. <http://www.issg.org/database/species/ecology.asp?si=285&fr=1&sts=sss&lang=EN>
3. <http://plants.usda.gov/java/profile?symbol=PIST2>